

Am. Secretary of State,

# American Recorder.

"Be just and fear not;  
Let all the ends thou aimst at  
Be thy Country's, thy God's, & Truth's."

VOL. VIII]

WASHINGTON, N. C.—FRIDAY, JULY 18, 1823.

[NO. 492.

## POLITICAL.

From the Baltimore American  
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

### LETTER V.

Mr. Adams resigned his seat in the Senate of the United States, nearly a year before the end of his constitutional term of service. The course which he had pursued while in that body it has been seen was too republican, to give satisfaction to his federal constituents; and they had passed certain resolutions, designed to operate as *instructions* to their Senators, the tenor of which Mr. Adams thought irreconcilable with the existing state of affairs. The same principles, however, which had governed every political act of his life, are manifested in his resignation. For, while he proved his determination to maintain his own independence, by refusing to act in conformity with such instructions, he at the same time gave evidence of his recognition of their right to instruct their representatives, by affording them an immediate opportunity of electing a more congenial one in his place.

His resignation may be regarded, as one of the most complete and perfect illustrations of *political consistency* that ever was exhibited.—There is, indeed, scarcely another example of the kind on record. Other representatives, it is true, have acknowledged the right of their constituents to control their votes—have bowed to the will of the majority; but in doing so, they have shown either that they had not fixed principles of their own, or that they were ready to sacrifice both them and their conscience at the shrine of popularity.—Politicians, in general, are too apt to regard the obligations of *moral* *obligation* as subservient to the temporary policy of party. A distinguishing trait in the character of Mr. Adams, on the contrary, is that he acts always, upon the principle, that *moral* and *political* integrity, is one indivisible virtue, the obligations of which are paramount under every circumstance of application. No devotion to party, no hope of political advancement, could ever induce him to violate his sense of moral rectitude. We have seen him, therefore, while in the Senate of the United States, pursuing the straight path of duty—turning neither to the right hand nor to the left—flattering no party by a blind and indiscriminate adoption of all its measures—and becoming the able advocate, or the dauntless antagonist, of every proposition according as it tended, in his unbiased judgement, to promote, or to injure, the honor or interest of the nation. Can it be doubted, that the concern of a nation would be safer under the guardianship of such a man, than under that of a sectary in politics, a devotee of party?

But, "political consistency" is every thing, cry the advocates of *all* the other candidates—"We must have a President who has been *uniformly republican*—who voted for the election of Jefferson—who supported his administration—and who has been the constant friend of Madison and Monroe." Be it so; I am willing to agree that we ought to have a President "who has been uniformly republican," and who supported the administration of Jefferson, Madison and Monroe. But let us compare the pretensions of the several candidates upon these grounds. We have seen that Mr. Adams has been "uniformly republican." We have seen that he was *abroad*, in a ministerial capacity, at the period of Mr. Jefferson's election, but that he did support "his administration" in all its most important measures; and that he opposed it only on points of *constitutional construction*, where its warmest friends might honestly differ in opinion. That he was an advocate of the war, and that he was the friend and supporter of Mr. Madison, throughout the whole of his administration, is abundantly proved, by his votes and speeches in the Senate, by his letter to Mr. Otis, and by his having been appointed to, and continued in, by Mr. Madison, some of the most important negotiations in which this country was ever engaged. That he has been the constant, firm and efficient supporter of the present administration, I shall take occasion hereafter to show.

Mr. Crawford, there is no reason to doubt, voted for the election of Mr. Jefferson. But it has been seen, that, during the short period of his Senatorial service under that administration, on two occasions, he united

with its bitterest enemies in opposing measures, which were regarded as of vital importance to the safety and interests of the country—I mean the *embargo*, and the *fortifying our ports and harbours*. "Call you that backing of your friends? A plague upon such backing," Under Mr. Madison's administration, Mr. Crawford not only gave his *vote* to recharter the old *Bank of the United States*—a measure in direct opposition to the republican policy but took an active and *virulent* part in the *discussion* of the question, indirectly denying to the people the right of instructing their representatives, and denouncing those States which had expressed an opinion, as actuated by *avarice* and the *love of domination*. In the debates on the question of war, on the contrary, Mr. Crawford took *no part*, but sat a *silent* listener, not once opening his lips to utter a single argument in support of the *Declaration*. Is this *republicanism*? Is this *political consistency*? With regard to the *present* administration, Mr. Crawford's *opposition* commenced even *before the election* of Mr. Monroe. He was a *rival candidate*; and it would be *sining* against all opinion of human nature to believe, that *defeat* could change his hostility into sincerity or friendship. Until lately, indeed, his opposition has been open and avowed; but it has been found that Mr. Monroe dwells so securely in the people's love and veneration, that *their favour* is not to be purchased by *opposition* to him—and the feelings that were before avowed, are now *disguised*. If this is doubted, let the public papers, and the public men, who have been *constant* in their support of Mr. Crawford for the *last six years*, be consulted.

Let us now apply the same tests to Mr. Calhoun.—At the time of Mr. Jefferson's election, he was *not of legal age* to vote. Upon this point, then, he stands on no better ground than Mr. Adams, who was *not in the country*. He did not enter into public life until after Mr. Jefferson had retired. Whatever might have been his feelings or sentiments, therefore, it is certain he could have given no *efficient* support to the administration of Mr. Jefferson. In this, then, though he stands on better ground than Mr. Crawford, he must lose in the comparison with Mr. Adams. He was elected to Congress during the administration of Mr. Madison; and it affords me pleasure to acknowledge, that he was for the most part, a *zealous* and *able* champion of that administration. On one occasion, however, if on no more, it had been seen, that he forgot the policy of Jefferson & of Madison, abandoned the great republican interests, and stood forth the active partisan of stock-jobbers and money-lenders. His interests, his eloquence, and his influence, were all exerted to give existence to the new *Bank of the U. States*—an institution which every plain & *conscientious* republican, regards as a *fearful engine* of aristocracy, and as tending directly to the subversion of that purity and simplicity, which form the leading features of our *constitution* and *government*.—That Mr. Calhoun has been the steady friend of the *present* administration, I admit with pleasure. But so also has Mr. Adams been; and it remains to be shown whether, upon this ground, his claims to the support of the people, are *stronger* than those of the latter gentleman. His comparison will be further extended in due time.

With respect to Mr. Clay; it may be said, that, like Mr. Calhoun, he did not come into public life, until after Mr. Jefferson had retired from the helm of affairs; for though he was in the Senate for one Session, namely, 1806-7, the subjects on which he was engaged were, for the most part, of a local and domestic nature, involving no party question, and requiring no expression of feeling towards the administration. The claims of these two gentlemen, therefore, are in this respect equal: and both are of younger date than those of either Mr. Crawford or Mr. Adams. It is evident, that *neither* can make pretension to the support of the people, on the favorite ground of adherence to the maxims and policy of Jefferson's administration. Under the succeeding administration, Mr. Clay came again into Congress; and proved himself not only one of its most active, but one of its most constant supporters. It is far from my purpose to question his republican principles.—His talents are brilliant; his attain-

ments rich and varied: the character of his mind is great and lofty; and his eloquence is luminous, fascinating and powerful. To whatever party such a man attached himself, he could not fail to be useful. But will it be said, that this splendid Orator has been the constant friend, the uniform supporter, of the *present* administration? Has he not, on occasion deeply involving the interests of the nation, evinced the most decided hostility to the wise and prudent policy of Mr. Monroe? Has he not sometimes used the high power and influence of his station, to the great embarrassment of the operations of government? We shall find answers to these questions in the various reports of *Committees*, selected by him. In some of these, we shall not only discover strong expressions of opposition to the Executive, but find also many sarcastic sneers against a policy, which every consideration of prudence recommended, and which subsequent events have shewn to have been well devised. I would not urge from this, that Mr. Clay has ever deserted his party, or abandoned his principles; or that he has ever been other than a pure disinterested and *zealous republican*.—But surely the friends of this gentleman, as well as those of Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Crawford, who build their hopes of the people's favour, upon the ground of unshaken devotion to the three republican administrations will be compelled to acknowledge, that the claims of Mr. Adams are, *in this regard* at least of *equal* validity. Those who are yet unprejudiced, who examine and compare only for the sake of *truth*, will perhaps discover, that even on this *chosen ground*, he occupies the most commanding height.

### TELL.

### SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

At the commencement of the discussion concerning the next President, it was said by some well informed editors, perhaps because they *wished* it to be so, that a majority of the electors of Maine, New-Hampshire, Connecticut, and New-York would be in favor of Mr. Crawford, and that Mr. Adams, whose prospects they considered as *next* to Mr. C's, would have a few votes in the above states, *all* in Massachusetts, and a few in some of the states to the West and South, where a great majority of the electors would vote for Mr. Crawford, or Mr. Calhoun, or somebody else—thus making it *impossible* to elect Mr. Adams, at all events. But these calculations, it now appears were erroneous in the extreme. From present indications, Vermont is almost unanimous for Mr. Adams. So is Maine, New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island, so far as the gubernatorial elections in those states can be relied on as a criterion of public opinion. In Maine and New-Hampshire, for instance, the candidates for governor supported by the friends of Adams prevailed. New-York, it was said would be *united* on Crawford; but we hear from many parts of that state that the friends of Adams are quite numerous. New-Jersey was also put down for Mr. Crawford. The veteran Republican Editor of the *True American* at Trenton has proved, as far as proof can now be had, that this state will go *all* for Adams. Even in Virginia, where the partisans of Mr. Crawford were tho't to be most numerous, a candidate for a seat in Congress nearly lost his election by declaring himself an opponent of Mr. Adams. We barely mention these circumstances as "signs of the times," postponing to a more proper season the expression of our own views and wishes upon the subject.

### Vermont Repub.

The following remarks, of the Editors of the *Indiana Gazette* published at Corydon, the present seat of Government of Indiana, are subjoined to an essay on the subject of the Presidential election, & from the *Oracle*, also published in Indiana in which the same opinion is expressed as to the probable vote of that state.

### Morning Post.

"We think ourselves that Indiana is not thrown into the proper scale abroad. We had intended to remain silent on the subject, but for the error our brothers Editors have fallen into, in placing Indiana on the Clay side of the question. It is our opinion (without expressing our wishes on the

subject) that Mr. Adams will get two-thirds of the votes in this state; but we may be wrong."

A meeting was lately held at Kittanning, in Armstrong county, Pa. at which it was Resolved. That taking into consideration the republican education and nurture—the long tried public services—the political and patriotic principles—the exemplary domestic virtues of John Quincy Adams, that he be recommended to the people of Pennsylvania, for their support at the next election for the President of the U. States.

### Pittsburgh Statesman.

### MR. CRAWFORD'S PROSPECTS IN THE WEST.

From the Louisville Advertiser.

Among the candidates for the Presidency, no man is so unpopular in the west as the Secretary of the Treasury, and one of the most serious objections that a number of the people have to Mr. Clay, is, that they cannot avoid believing that an understanding exists between him and Mr. Crawford. In Kentucky, Mr. Clay is admitted to be popular; but he is not sufficiently so, to throw the weight of this state on the side of Mr. Crawford, under any circumstances; nor can our citizens be induced to give their undivided support to any individual, who is supposed to be in close alliance with the leader of the *Radical Faction*.

From the Nashville Advocate.

We are well satisfied that the Western States will never support Mr. Crawford for the Presidency. Any of the other candidates would be supported in preference to him. The west can in no way see their interest connected with him. In fact we have a better opinion of his talents, than to believe he has ever calculated on the Western states for support. It is certainly very little that he has ever done for the nation—and in that little the west has received but a poor divide.

From the Florence (Ala.) Gazette.

"Mr. Crawford is not considered, or spoken of as a candidate."

The Washington Republican, of 2d instant, says, that accounts from North-Carolina concur in stating the continued accession to Mr. Calhoun's strength; that in the Salisbury, Newbern, Washington, and Wilmington districts, particularly, his prospects are reported, as being very fine; and that Mr. Crawford is declining—going down very fast." All this may be true; but if it be, we who are on the spot know nothing of the matter. We do not believe that the citizens of this State have yet made up their minds on this subject. They will do so in due time, but they do not think it necessary to come to a decision till near the time when they will be called upon to give their vote for Electors, that they may receive all the information which they can expect in the candidates. They will then probably be, as usual, pretty unanimous in sentiment. Were we to venture an opinion at present, it would not be in unison with that so confidently given by the Editors of the Republican. We believe it is the wish of the citizens of this State (and no doubt this is the general wish) that the election of the next President should be decided by the vote of the Electors, and not by that of the House of Representatives of the United States, because, judging from what took place in 1801, when Mr. Burr had nearly been elected President *against* the voice of the Nation, in place of Mr. Jefferson, they fear that the election would, in that case, be influenced more by *intrigue*, than the fitness of the candidate for the office. They would be glad to hear therefore, that some of the candidates had withdrawn their names from nomination, as, with the present number, no one can be expected to receive a majority of the votes of the Electors.

### Rol. Reg.

### THE SUBSCRIBER.

REQUESTS those indebted to him, to come forward and settle their accounts by the 1st August, as all accounts remaining unsettled then, will be put in a proper train for collection.

THOMAS A. DEMILL.

3d July, 1823.

N. B. The subscriber has no objection to receiving any payments either on note or account in the mean time.

## Foreign News.

From the Commercial Advertiser.

NEW-YORK, JULY 5.

Yesterday the fast sailing ship *London Packet*, Capt. Benedict, arrived from Liverpool, whence she sailed on the 24th of May, a few hours after the packet ship *Robert Fulton*, which has not yet arrived, & which has our packages of papers, pamphlets, &c. The only papers received by this ship, is a single file of the *London Courier* from the 19th to the 22d of May—both inclusive; and as these have been politely loaned by the owners to all the publishers in this city, we have only had a few minutes to examine them. A summary of their contents, and such extracts as we have had time to make, will be found below.

The news from Spain is not so late as that brought by Capt. Tunison, from St. Andero; but the intelligence from Catalonia, contained in the *Paris* papers of the 21st of May, (given below) is several days later than has been received through the same channel, and is of a very vague and doubtful character. We never for a moment gave credit to the rumor that Mina had made a dash into France; and that rumor is now proved to have been without foundation. In our opinion, also, this news tends to lessen the probability that any considerable engagement had taken place between Mina and Marshal Moncey, near Catalonia, as reported by Capt. Tunison, although it is sufficient to reconcile this conclusion with the assertion of Capt. T. that he saw the official account of the battle. Capt. T. stated that the news was received at St. Andero on the 20th of May. The battle, therefore, must have taken place as early as the 15th or 16th; for it would have been impossible for the news to have travelled over from Catalonia, on the east of the peninsula, to the extreme point of Burgos on the west, a distance of from 3 to 4 hundred miles in a direct line, and, probably, of 5 hundred to take the roads winding among the mountains, in a shorter time than four or five days, the whole country, moreover, being occupied with French troops, who, it is probable, would not have facilitated the progress of news of their own discomfiture. And besides, if a great battle had taken place between the 10th and 20th of May, the result, on whichever side perched the eagle of victory, would have been communicated to Paris in a few hours by telegraph; and notwithstanding the censorship of the press, this result could not have been kept many hours a secret. Again: The news given below, from Gerone, the head-quarters of Moncey, is down to the 16th of May, inclusive. At that time, therefore, no battle had been fought, and Mina; instead of being in the rear of the French army, was marching in the direction of Barcelona, for the purpose, as it was supposed by some, of joining Ballasteros. On the whole, we suspect the story of the defeat of Moncey had an earlier origin, as we now find it in a letter from Bayonne, dated on the 13th of May, and this was republished in the *Courier* of the 21st. The same papers also contained a rumor that Mina had been deserted by his troops, taken among the mountains, and carried a prisoner to Perpignan. Up to the 13th of May, one of these stories was about as true as the other. We hope, however, our calculations may prove erroneous, and that Moncey, or a large detachment of his army, has been cut to pieces; but it is not worth while to let our patriotic wishes and feelings blind our eyes to facts, or run away with our judgment.

The tone of the *London Courier*, relative to the affairs of Spain, appears to be more patriotic than it has been. After a few speculations as to the affairs of Catalonia, and the actual situation of Mina, the *Courier* proceeds to state that the Duke d'Angouleme, was advancing upon the Capital without opposition, and would probably enter Madrid on the 24th of May. The editor, then asks—

"And what next? Aye—what, indeed! We have heard it said that a Regency will then be established in Ferdinand's name. Admit it—we think it highly probable: but still the question, "what next?"—remains to puzzle us. Of whom will this Regency be composed? By whom will it be recognized? What power will it be able to exercise? What foreign relations can it maintain? How many weeks will elapse before contending factions will dissolve it? Can any Regency, in the existing state of the country, be established, which could continue to support itself? Look to the enormous expense of such a measure—and which is infinitely more to the purpose, look to what must be the policy of England, if there should arise the slightest chance of a military occupation of Spain by France. This country has hitherto stood aloof upon the supposition that, one

way or the other, the contest might perhaps be soon terminated; but can it be imagined that a protracted war, or a pretended interference, would permit us to continue our present policy?

"The great obstacle to any tolerable adjustment of the question, arises from the royal family of Spain being in the hands of those who will listen to no terms. If the King's person should be removed to the Canaries, our Ambassador would, of course, follow him, while, perhaps, the Ambassadors of France, Russia, Austria, and Prussia, would be accredited to the Regency at Madrid. From such a position of affairs, it would be absurd to expect that any permanently pacific arrangements, or any peaceful arrangements at all, could flow. In fact, the more we reflect upon the future, remembering what has passed and what is passing, the more we are perplexed to discover a satisfactory conclusion to the business."

The whole of this passage has an evident bearing towards a state of things that will lead to a general war, and an alliance between England and Spain.

It is stated in the French papers that Oviedo, the Capital of Asturias, has sent in its submission to the Generalissimo, (the Duke d'Angouleme.)

A letter from Lausanne, May 4, is published in the Brussels papers of the 16th, in which the writer states, that he fears he shall be obliged to quit that town, as Austria and Russia have caused an application to be made to the Cantons for the passage of an army through that country. This demand, he says, "has been unanimously rejected. But I fear the neutrality of Switzerland will not be respected, and I shall fly, not to become a Russian or an Austrian." The fact of such a demand having been made was doubted at Antwerp, for two reasons—1st, that the French do not require any assistance; and, 2d, that had the demand been made, Switzerland would not have had the energy to refuse it.

The news of an attempt of Russia, to assert, upon an American vessel, the extraordinary claim advanced by that government relative to the Northwest Coast of America, had reached London, where it produced some excitement. The subject was immediately brought before Parliament by Sir James Mackintosh; but Mr. Canning replied that they had no other late information than that re-published in England from the American papers. The Russian claim is said to embrace six degrees of the coast which has long been in the possession of the Northwest Company. The tone of the British government is decided. They will neither submit to the claim, nor to the principle of national maritime law attempted to be established. The protest under the administration of the late Marquis of Londonderry, had been repeated at the Congress of Verona; and negotiations are still pending, and in activity, at the Court of St. Petersburg.

ST. JAGO DE LA VEGA, MAY 31.

The following is copied from the *Guiana Chronicle*, of the 18th ult.:

*Occupation of Porto Rico by the British.*

The *Trinidad Gazette*, of the 19th ult., received this morning, gives the following account of this important piece of information:

"By the arrival of the schooner Rector, in six days from Porto Rico, we learn that on Tuesday last, the 4th inst., ten ships of war and five transports arrived at San Juan, the capital, direct from England, with necessary credentials from the Spanish Government for the delivery of that important Colony over to England, which was accordingly done, and the British flag substituted for that of the Spanish. This, we understand, was not suffered to take place without consideration on the part of the Spanish Authorities, three or four days having elapsed before permission was given for the entry of the whole of the armament into the port, notwithstanding the authority produced by the British. This squadron, no doubt, must have passed Antigua some time since; but so secret has the affairs been conducted on the part of our Government at home, that not even a hint or suggestion had transpired of any such measures being in contemplation, as that of sending out a force in addition to the one under the command of Commodore Owen, which, it was generally supposed, was intended for this service."

**Blanks,  
Handbills,  
Cards &c.**  
Neatly and correctly executed  
at this Office.

## AMERICAN RECORD.

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, JULY 18, 1823

Negro Jim, the property of A. E. Harvey, who is charged with committing a rape upon the body of a white woman in this country a few weeks past, was, on Monday last, apprehended in Newbern, and on Tuesday brought to this place and committed to prison. He will probably have his trial at October Term of our Superior Court.

### COMMUNICATION.

MR. M'WILLIAMS.—As one of the principal objects of civilized society and government is *public improvement and convenience*, those objects should be constantly kept in view by the conservators of the health, comfort and convenience of the community.

Much was said, some three or four weeks ago, respecting the building of two or three Pumps in Washington, and my object now is, to inquire of the Commissioners of the town (the proper authority) if any thing is to be done as well as said?—or shall this very necessary and convenient project, like too many others in this town, end in *smoke*—in *vox, et preterea nihil?* Whoever takes a view of the situation of this town, and of the distribution of the public pumps, must, at once be convinced of the justice and propriety of erecting others in the upper part of Middle-Street; and if the Commissioners are determined to do their duty, and act upon the principles of *justice, impartiality, and public utility*, (of which I have no doubt,) they will immediately attend to the hints here thrown out, and no longer neglect the interests of

### VAN NOORDEN TOWN.

July 17.

We hesitate not to say, that the Commissioners are disposed to do "*justice*," & will, as soon as the nature of things permit "do as well as say." A contract has been made by the Board for sinking a Pump in the upper part of Middle-Street.—EDITOR.]

The Editor of the *Washington Republican*, in his publication of the 2d inst. furnishes us some news—he states, that "accounts, from North-Carolina concur in stating the continued accessions to Mr. Calhoun's strength; that in the Salisbury, Newbern, Washington, and Wilmington districts, particularly, his prospects are reported, as being very fine;"—We will not say as to the other districts; but for the Washington district we can speak—There are none here but that speak of Mr. Calhoun in terms of high respect; but very few in this quarter speak of him as the successor of our present worthy incumbent, James Monroe. The Republican then adds, "Mr. Crawford is declining—going down very fast."—This may or may not be so; we are not prepared to say: However, taking it for granted, that the respectable editors of that journal, have good authority for this intelligence, we give it without remark.

An attempt to rob the Eastern Mail was made on the 7th inst. a short distance from Baltimore by 3 men—two of whom were severely wounded by the mail guard, and all of them arrested and committed to prison in Baltimore—One of them confessed the facts, the remaining two persist in their innocence. These daring transgressors had the mail in their possession, but the driver who had escaped, bringing up some assistance, caused them to retreat without their booty. Further particulars may be found in a succeeding column.

Notwithstanding all the vigilance of the gallant Porter, we are concerned to notice, too frequent tidings of continued piratical depredations.

The ship *Fame*, Folsom, arrived at Portsmouth on Saturday, in 34 days from St. Ubes. It was reported when she sailed, (May 30,) that the French army had entered Madrid, and that the Portuguese troops ordered for the defence of Spain had revolted—refusing to join the Spanish cause.

*Mer. Adv. of 9th inst.*

We mentioned some days since that a report had reached Paris of an insurrection

in the British possessions of Western India. The following article, which we find in the *Philadelphia Gazette*, appears to corroborate that intelligence.

Some commercial houses at Constantinople are said to have received letters announcing the fact of a coalition having been formed between the Mamelukes and several sovereigns of Hindostan, and that the coalition had, after the departure of the Marquis of Hastings, declared war against England. On the same authority it is affirmed the English had, in order to defend themselves, withdrawn the garrison from their ports on the Persian Gulf. If the news be true, the event will be of the greatest importance.

PHILADELPHIA, JULY 7.

We have received by the ship *Dido*, our files of London papers to the 23d of May, and Liverpool to the 24th, but they contain very little concerning the affairs of France and Spain, other than a recapitulation of the news brought by the last arrival at N. York. Intelligence from Bayonne, under date May 15, exhibits no favourable picture of the success of the invading army. Preparations, it seems, are making for a protracted war, and the opinion, says the *London Courier*, we have often expressed gains ground—that this war will not commence on the part of the Spaniards, till the invaders are in the capital. Of Mina, nothing is yet known with certainty, but all the reports respecting him, come from what quarter they may, have a general tendency to represent him as having obtained some success over the enemy. If so, he adds, it must yet be some time before we shall know their nature and extent, for of course, not a syllable about them will appear in the Paris papers.

*Aurora.*

### PORTO-RICO.

A story is going the rounds of the newspapers, taken from *Jamaica* papers of the 7th June, that a British squadron has taken possession of Porto-Rico. This is not true; as we have seen a letter from St. John's, (Porto-Rico,) dated the 17th June, which makes no mention of this event. At that date the market for American produce was good: Flour was \$19, and Corn Meal \$40 a puncheou.

*N. Y. Gaz.*

NEW-YORK, JULY 10.

*HAVANA* papers to the 26th ult. (five days later) have been received at the office of the *American* by the U. S. sch'r *Shark*. One of these papers contains a proclamation by Governor Vives, informing the inhabitants of the declaration of war by the mother country against France, at the same time enjoining on them the observance of good treatment towards such Frenchmen as were domiciled among them. There is in the papers another address of Gov. Vives, in answer to an application for permission to enrol in *Havana* a company of volunteers to go to the Peninsula, in which he approves of the project, subscribes himself eight ounces of gold towards defraying the expenses of equipping this company, and calls upon all patriotic citizens, in like manner, to contribute to that object.

The *London Morning Chronicle* of the 22d of May makes the following commentary on Mina's proceedings, which, says the *National Gazette*, deserves to be quoted:

"The more we look at Mina's movement, the more judicious it appears. Had he continued retreating along the sea coast, he would have been in danger of being thrown upon the Mediterranean, or forced into *Barcelona*. He has left part of his extreme right to reinforce that garrison. Those are the troops left at *Hospitalet*. He is now in what we will call his natural position; that is, with his back upon *Arragon* and *Navarre*, the scenes of his former exploits; for exploits they merit to be called. Surrounded by hostile armies during the last war, the deeds of Mina were but known in part. How often were corps of 15 and 20,000 men rapidly formed by the French, in order to overwhelm him! They never could bring him to action. They covered *Navarre* and *Arragon*, too, with castles, as they did the rest of Spain, on the system of the Moors. Mina reduced them by regular siege; he opened trenches; made breaches; stormed and carried their forts. Mina had his battering guns, too, in the last war. They were buried in the mountains when in danger; they were disinterred when wanted."

CONSULATE GENERAL OF COLOMBIA.

The following Laws are published for the information of merchants and others trading to the various ports of the Republic of Colombia:

"In order that shipments made to the ports of the Republic in national vessels, or in friendly foreign or neutral vessels, may enjoy the deduction of duties which the 12th

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SECOND EXPRESS.  
An hour after receiving the foregoing in-  
telligence, the following letter was received,  
which affords the information, anticipated  
above, that the robbers are detected  
and apprehended:

Baltimore, July 3, 1823.—31-2 o'clock.  
To the Postmaster General, Washington City.  
DEAR SIR: We are happy to inform  
you, that three of the Mail Robbers have  
been apprehended by Mr. Stokes and his  
party, a few miles from the spot of the  
robbery. Two of them are severely wounded;  
the fourth, if a fourth, has not been heard  
of. The guard has defended the Mail bravely.  
Very respectfully, &c.

STOCKTON & STOKES.  
Palace of Bogota, 20th Feb. 1823."

The productions and manufactures of  
Colombia, her colonies and dependencies, are  
entirely excluded from our commerce,  
are in no manner allowed to be admitted  
into the Custom Houses of the Republic  
from the term of sixty days after the  
publication of this decree.

FOURTH OF JULY.  
Neutral vessels which, in opposition to  
the late Anniversary of American Independ-  
ence, shall introduce or attempt to  
produce cargoes of the above produce or  
manufactures, shall be informed, for the first  
time, of the tenor of this decree, that they  
may depart for some port out of the domin-  
ions of Colombia; and in case they should  
attempt an infringement of this de-  
cree, returning to our ports with the same  
cargoes, or others of a similar description,  
vessels shall be condemned for the ben-  
efit of the National Treasury, and the car-  
goes publicly burnt, or spilled, should they  
consist of liquids.

Palace of Bogota, 23d Jan. 1823.  
The above documents will be accompa-  
nied by certificates from the Consuls or  
commercial Agents of the Colombian Re-  
public, residing in the respective ports from  
which the vessels may depart.

JOSE LEANDBO PALACIOS,  
Consul General.

Philadelphia, July 7, 1823.

ROBBERY OF THE MAIL AGAIN NEAR BALTI-  
MORE!

to papers being received by Sunday's mail  
north of Baltimore is accounted for in the  
robbery of the mail.

From the National Intelligencer.

The following letter to the Postmaster  
General reached Washington by Express at  
o'clock on the evening of the 8th inst.

BALTIMORE POST-OFFICE, {  
9 o'clock, A. M. 8th July, 1823. }  
Hon. JOHN McLEAN, Postmaster General.

DEAR SIR: I regret to have again to  
announce the robbery, by force of arms,  
of the Eastern Mail, coming to this city  
from Philadelphia. It happened between  
one and two o'clock this morning, about  
two miles beyond the Gunpowder Falls, &  
was perpetrated by at least four armed ruffians.  
The Guard of the Mail, who was  
well armed, appears to have defended it  
bravely, and, according to his, the only ac-  
count I have yet received, it was not sur-  
rendered until he had discharged his blun-  
derbuss and pistols, and was overcome by  
superior numbers, and great violence to his  
person. The Driver, in the confusion, es-  
caped unhurt; and the mail for this city,  
and for distribution here, was not touched.

The bag containing the mail for Wash-  
ington, and all South of this, was cut open;  
but I do not delay it to ascertain the extent  
of depredations upon it, as the stage is re-  
ady to take it on. The neighboring country  
is alarmed, and scouring the vicinity  
in pursuit of the robbers. Mr. Stokes left  
here as soon as there was reason to apprehend  
that the mail had been attacked; and,  
from him we shall soon hear further par-  
ticulars. In the mean time you may feel  
assured, that every thing that can, will be  
done, to arrest these desperate villains.

Traces of much blood on the ground, indicate  
that some of the party were deeply, if  
not mortally wounded. Respectfully, your  
obedient servant, J. S. SKINNER.

From the contents of this letter there is  
every reason to believe that the certainty  
of detection which has hitherto attended the  
attempt to rob the mail, will attend this last  
most desperate attempt. The driver, who  
escaped, came on here with the Express;  
and the rifled bag, slit from one end to the  
other, has also arrived, with its contents.  
From the examination of the mails, there  
is ground to hope, that the alarm to the  
robbers came so quickly on them, that they  
had not time to take any thing of value  
from the Mail. The driver says, from the  
quantity of blood found in the spot where  
the guard fired at the first assailant, there  
is reason to believe, he was dangerously  
wounded. The robbers, having got pos-  
session of the boat, spoke of making their  
way to the boat, so that they intended by  
the water to evade pursuit.

SECOND EXPRESS.

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telligence, the following letter was received,  
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the fourth, if a fourth, has not been heard  
of. The guard has defended the Mail bravely.

Very respectfully, &c.

STOCKTON & STOKES.

We understand, from the last Express,  
that the robbers are supposed to have been  
workmen employed at the Iron Works in  
the vicinity of the place where the robbery  
was attempted.

FOURTH OF JULY.

As far as we have received information,  
the late Anniversary of American Independ-  
ence, has been celebrated with more en-  
thusiasm throughout the United States,  
generally, than at any former period: We  
say generally, because in some few places,  
where we should look for example, either  
from a want of principle, or a lack of pub-  
lic spirit, the day was noticed with a cold-  
ness and apathy, very little compatible with  
the exhilarating occasion. This spiritless  
observance of the day, is a reflection upon  
those portions of our country where it has  
been manifested, and we hope never to see it  
repeated. The *Fourth of July* had bet-  
ter never be celebrated at all, if it is not  
done with feeling and enthusiasm. The  
observance of it by a cold and cheerless  
formality, is mockery—nay, worse than  
mockery—it is base ingratitude. When  
the American people cease to commemo-  
rate the anniversary of their birthday as  
a nation, they will no longer deserve the  
innumerable blessings bestowed upon them  
by a kind Providence: And it requires no  
great stretch of the imagination to predict,  
that when we become careless and listless  
as to the manner in which this great day  
should be celebrated, the period will not be  
distant, when we shall cease to enjoy those  
privileges & immunities which we shall have  
ceased duly to estimate. Pet. Rep.

The anniversary of our national inde-  
pendence was celebrated in this city, on Fri-  
day last, with more than usual spirit. At  
sunrise divine service was performed at the  
Methodist Church. At 10 o'clock, a pro-  
cession, composed of the Military, the La-  
dies, the Governor and other executive offi-  
cers, the Judges of the Supreme Court, and  
a large number of citizens, proceeded from  
the Capital Square to the Methodist  
Church, where the ceremonies were opened  
with prayer by the Rev. Mr. M'Pheeters  
and Mr. Howard; after which, an appro-  
priate Ode was sung, accompanied by in-  
strumental music; the Declaration of Inde-  
pendence was read by the Hon. Judge Pot-  
ter, and a suitable Oration delivered by  
William Russin, Esq.

The Raleigh Blues then returned to the  
Square, and, after performing a variety of  
evolutions and firing several volleys and a  
feu-de-joi, were dismissed.

At 3 o'clock, a party of gentlemen par-  
took of a sumptuous dinner, provided by  
Mr. Rob't H. Wynne; at which his Ex.  
Governor Holmes presided, assisted by  
the Hon. Chief Justice Taylor, as vice-  
president.

#### IMPROVEMENTS IN BEDS.

An Englishman has made an improve-  
ment in this necessary article, which is pec-  
uliarly novel and highly economical. He  
proposed to render the bed impervious to  
air, then to fill it, by means of an air pump,  
or condensing syringe, with common at-  
mospheric air instead of down or feathers.  
The air is introduced through an aperture  
or tube into the case, and presented from  
returning by means of an air tight stop cock  
or valve. The case may be made imper-  
vious to air by various methods, but the  
recommended by the patentee is a composi-  
tion of Indian rubber, spirits of turpentine  
and linseed oil, which when dry is exceed-  
ingly pliable, and so elastic, that if the  
cloth be folded in sharp corners, it will not  
crack or peel off. The advantages of this  
method of constructing beds, and pillows,  
are their superior degree of elasticity, asfor-  
ing the most refreshing and easy repose  
in the warmest climate; they may, when  
required, be changed from the greatest de-  
gree of softness to the hardness of a mat-  
tress, by moving the handle of the air pump,  
which is placed conveniently within reach,  
or may be rendered soft to any required  
degree, by the exhausting pump, also within  
reach. They may be made fresh and  
cool, by changing the air, by the alternate  
use of the air pumps. This may be effect-  
ed in a few minutes, without removing the  
person who occupies the bed. Hence a  
great advantage to invalids. For medical  
purposes they may be filled with air at any  
required temperature, or with water, steam,

or other fluids.—The author enumerates  
a variety of other advantages, to be derived  
from his ingenious contrivance, for which  
he is fairly entitled to a share of those bles-  
sings which Sancho Panza invoked for the  
inventor of sleep.—*Philadelphia Union.*

#### Ship News.

##### Arrived.

Sch. Mary, Tolston, New-York,  
Merchandise to Eli Hoyt.

" General Jackson, Tillet, Philadelphia.

" Thos. H. Blount, Williams, Do.

##### Cleared.

Sch. Deborah, Cruthers, New-York,  
Naval Stores by Burbank & Potts.

" Two Brothers, Caffee, New-York,  
Naval Stores by J. & Wm. Ellison.

Sloop Phoenix, Gifford, Do.  
Naval Stores by W. Hanrahan.

#### NOTICE.

THE Subscribers intending to leave this  
for the north about the 20th of August, re-  
quests all persons indebted to the late firm  
of Cushing & Bonner (before and since the  
death of Mr. Cushing) to make payment  
prior to that time. As the principal ob-  
ject of his visit to the north, will be to effect  
a final close of the business with the rep-  
resentatives of the late Mr. Cushing, it is  
earnestly and particularly requested that  
all those concerned, will duly regard this  
notice.—Those having claims will please  
present them.

JOSEPH BONNER.

July 16. — 102.

#### Advertisement.

THERE was, (through mistake) put on  
board the Sch. Thomas H. Blount, just  
arrived at this port from Philadelphia a  
small box, marked

Mr. Dan'l McDowell,

EDENTON, N. C.

The Box is left at the Custom House in  
this place, where the owner can get it by  
paying for this advertisement—

WILLIAM WILLIAMS,  
Capt. Sch. Thomas H. Blount.

July 16, 1823.—11

#### CLARK'S COMMENTARY.

MYERS & SMITH, Booksellers, No.  
59 Fulton street, New-York, will shortly  
commence publishing a Royal Octavo Edi-  
tion of Dr. Adam Clarke's Commentary,  
on *very fine paper*, and excellent print, at  
one HALF the price of the Quarto Edition,  
containing the

OLD & NEW TESTAMENTS,  
The Text taken from the most correct  
copies of the present authorized version;

with the marginal readings, an ample col-  
lection of parallel Texts, and copious sum-  
maries to each chapter. The date of every  
transaction through the whole of the  
New Testament as far as it has been as-  
certained by the best Chronologers, will be

marked in the A. M. or years from the Cre-  
ation, collated throughout with the years  
of the Julian period; and in the A. a. C.  
and A. D. or years before and after Christ,  
with Critical Notes. Embellished with  
Maps, and a Portrait of the Author. Also,

The NEW TESTAMENT,

SEPARATELY.

#### CONDITIONS.

1. The work will be printed on new  
type and fine paper—to make six volumes  
Royal Octavo, containing about 900 pages  
each, at \$5 per vol. neatly bound in  
sheep, with raised bands;—or each vol.  
to consist of ten Numbers, at 50 cents per  
Number, or Quarter Nos. at 12 1-4.

2. The New Testament will be printed  
separately, being complete in two volumes,  
making 20 Nos. of 96 pages each, at 50  
cents per No. or Quarter Nos. at 12 1-2.

3. The work will be put to press on the  
first of April, 1823, and completed as speed-  
ily as possible.

4. To commence the work by first pub-  
lishing the New-Testament, and delivering  
it either in Vols. or in Nos.

5. The work to be delivered to sub-  
scribers bound, at its completion, or in Nos.  
monthly or weekly.

\* \* Subscriptions to the above cheap  
and valuable work, for either the New Testa-  
ment only, or both the Old & New together,  
will be received by the Editor of the  
AMERICAN RECORDER.

#### PRINTING,

Of all descriptions, neatly executed at this  
Office, immediately opposite the Store of  
Mr. Edward Quin, Main-Street.

#### WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT

(CORRECTED WEEKLY.)

ARTICLES.	Per	D. C.	D. C.	Remarks.
Bacon	lb.	9	10	
Butter		20	22	nom.
Bees Wax		30	32	
Brandy, French	gal.	2	2	dull
Peach		60		sales
Corn	bush	60	55	sales
Cotton	lb.	10	11	
Coffee		30		
Candles		18		sales
Cordage		12	14	
Flaxseed				
Flour	bbl.	9	9 50	
Gin, Holland	gal.	1 25	1 50	
Country		50	55	nominal
Glass, 10 by 12	50 ft.	6		
Iron, country bar	lb.	5	5 50	sales
sweds		6		
Lumber, Flooring	M.	12		
Inch boards		7	8	dull
Scantling		7	8	
Shingles 22 inch		1 60	1 60	dull

## Poetry.

From the Hartford Mirror.

### THE ROBBER.

The moon hangs lightly on yon western hill,  
And now it gives a parting look, like one  
Who sadly leaves the guilty. You and I  
Must watch, when all is dark, and steal along  
By these lone trees, and wait for plunder; hush! hush!  
I hear the coming of some luckless wheel,  
Bearing, we know not what; perhaps the wealth,  
Torn from the needy, to be hoarded up  
By those who only count it; and perhaps  
The spendthrift's losses, or the gambler's gains,  
The thriving merchant's rich remittances,  
Or the small trifles some poor serving girl  
Sends to her poorer parents. But come on—  
Be cautious.—There, 'tis done, and now away.  
With breath drawn in, and noiseless step, to seek  
The darkness that befits so dark a deck:  
Now strike your light.—Ye powers that look upon us,  
What have we here? Whigs, Sentinels, Graecites,  
Heralds and Posts, and Couriers—Mercuries,  
Recorders, Advertisers and Intelligencers—  
Advocates and Auroras—There, what's that!  
That's—a Price Current.

#### 1 do venerate

The man, who rolls the smooth and silky sheet  
Upon the well cut copper. I respect  
The worthier names of those who sign bank-bills,  
And, though no literary man, I love  
To read their short and pithy sentences;  
But I hate types, and printers—and the gang  
Of editors and scribblers. Their remarks,  
Essays, songs, paragraphs and prophecies,  
I utterly detest. And these, particularly,  
Are just the meanest and most rascally  
"Stale and unprofitable" publications,  
I ever read in my life.

\* Two large bags containing newspapers, were stolen from the boot behind the Southern Mail Coach yesterday morning about 1 o'clock, between New-Brunswick and Bridgetown.—The straps securing the bags in the boot were cut and nothing else injured or removed therefrom. The letter mails are always carried in the front boot of the coach under the driver's feet, and therefore cannot be so easily approached.—*E. Post.*

From the Baltimore Chronicle.

A Bourbon ram, surmounted with a crown  
Ran once to butt the Spanish mountain down,  
He made one fatal dash and aimed so true,  
His diadem in fifty pieces flew;  
Then with a mournful face he gazed around,  
And not a single fragment could be found!  
Alack, quoth he, has thus my glory fled?  
I've lost a crown, and gained a broken head;  
Tis but a poor reward for all my pains,  
A granite rock more hard than granite brains.

### Antislavery.

Two Irishmen stopped for refreshment at a public house, which stood near the margin of the Mohawk river. There were some ducks in the yard, one of which had a Shoemaker's old last tied to one of its legs. One of the Hibernians said to the other, "Pat what is that block fastened to the fowl's leg for," the answer was, "to learn the duck to swim be sure."

From the Rochester (N. Y.) Telegraph.

### A ROWLAND FOR AN OLIVER.

A first water Yankee, on a peddling voyage through 'Yark state,' arrived in our village last week. Independent of the usual supplies, Jonathan, it seems, had added to his stock of 'nicknaks' a number of watches, to be disposed of either in the 'bartering line,' or to be 'swapped off,' as opportunities for driving a trade offered. Meeting a Dutch vagrant, well known in our streets, with a long brass chain dangling at his fob, Jonathan hit him for a trade, 'unright unseen.' Tommy was his man. The usual preliminaries being settled, the watches were deposited in the hat of a third person. The umpire then drew out the first watch. 'That,' said Jonathan, 'is the Dutchman's watch.' The other watch, which proved to be a wooden one, was drawn. 'Dat' cries honest Tommy, 'ish de Yankee's vatch,' 'All-firelock' exclaimed the chop-fallen Jonathan, holding up the apology for a watch by its chain, 'a tarnation Dutchman got the rig onto a Yankee! Who'd tho' it.' While the Yankee stood viewing his watch, with emotions that partook less of anger than of chagrin, Tommy, who was not satisfied with his triumph, observed that 'de wooden vatch would make goot nutmegs.' 'Yes,' exclaimed Jonathan with exultation, 'and that there watch of yourn would make a good nutmeg-grater, for the case is real block tin!'

**POLITENESS.**—A young man in this city was sent by his master, a merchant, to demand payment of an account amounting to three or four pounds. Although his calls were frequent, they were fruitless; the person declined payment of the demand; while the lad at each call desired him with the greatest politeness to pay him some part of the amount, as he should be grateful for the smallest sum. The debtor at length, one morning when the usual request had been made, nettled at the perseverance of his tormentor, gave him a penny, saying that as he had asserted that he would be grateful for the smallest sum, he presumed he would for the present be satisfied with that. 'Thank you, sir,' said the lad, uncovering and bowing profoundly; 'thank you, sir; had you favoured me with a sum, I have made upon you for the bill, the whole debt would have been discharged LONG SINCE.—*Eng. pap.*

## Miscellaneous.

### SINGULAR PHENOMON.

The following has been sent to us with a real signature: "In eating an egg on Sunday morning, (30th ult.) to my great surprise I found a small silver coin, which I believe to be a Dutch piece, value two shillings, adhering to the white of the egg. It was evidently interposed between the yolk and the albumen. The shell was discolored in parts, and particularly in that part where the coin was situated.—The egg was laid that morning, and the servant says there was no difference in the appearance of that and the others previous to their being boiled. I had eaten the greater part of it before I discovered the piece; it had not affected the flavour." *Literary Gaz.*

### OPPOSITION.

There are two watch-makers in Bandon, one of whom, a new comer, has the following notice posted on his window:

"Watch glasses put in for 1d.; Watches cleaned for 5d.; and all other work proportionably cheap."

The other, to secure his old customers from such an enticing bait, has posted a bill on his window as follows:

"Watch glasses put in for a good song, and all other work proportionably cheap."

A gentleman visited the latter shop a few days ago, sung his "good song," and got his watch glass. *Whitehaven paper.*

Solomon Southwick, Esq. of Albany, proposes to publish a Poem by subscription, to be entitled "The Pleasures of Poverty"—the price not to exceed fifty cents.

The following is the motto:

"Sweet are the uses of adversity,  
"Which like the toad, ugly and venomous,  
"Wears yet a precious jewel in his head."

SHAKESPEARE.

"Let me embrace these sour adversities,  
"For wise men say it is the wisest course."

IID.

Although we don't much like subscription papers "these hard times," yet we mean to subscribe for this work as soon as we can find a paper. We know very well what *Poverty* is; but we have never yet known the *pleasures* of it. When we ascertain that there are such pleasures, and what they are, we shall probably rank among the happiest of mortals. Mr. S. is known to be a man of talents and genius, and we hope, on more accounts than one, that every body will subscribe for this book. The poor should buy it for present comfort, and the rich because they know not how soon they may want some consolation of the kind.—*N. Y. Com. Adv.*

AN ARTIFICIAL LEG, with the knee and ankle joints, of very superior workmanship and utility, has been completed by Mr. G. Alcorn, last-maker, Philadelphia. The imitation of the motion of the ankle has been remarkably successful.—*Ib.*

### STORY OF FRANKLIN.

Doctor Benjamin Franklin, after the decease of his father, returned to Boston, in order to pay his respects to his mother, who resided in that city. He had been absent some years, and at that period of life when the greatest and most rapid alteration is made in the human appearance; at a time when the querulous voice of the stripling, assumes the commanding tone of the adult, and the smiling features of youth are succeeded by the strong lines of manhood. The Doctor was sensible such was the alteration of his person, that his mother could not know him, except by that instinct, which is believed can cause a mother's heart to beat violently in the presence of a child, and point the maternal eye, with quick and sudden glance, to a beloved son.

To discover the existence of this instinct by actual experience, the Doctor resolved to introduce himself as a stranger, to his mother, and to watch narrowly, for the moment when she should discover her son, and then determine, with the cool precision of a philosopher, whether that discovery was the effect of that instinct of affection—that intuitive love—that innate attachment, which is conjectured to cement relatives to the same blood; and which by according the passions of parent and child, like a well-tuned violin, would at the first touch, cause them to vibrate in unison & at once evince, that they were but different chords of the same instrument.

On a sultry day in the month of January, in the afternoon, the Doctor knocked at his mother's door, and asked to speak with Mrs. Franklin. He found the old lady knitting before the parlour fire—introduced himself, by observing, that he had been informed, she entertained travellers, and requested a night's lodging. She eyed him with that cold look of approbation which most people assume when they imagine themselves insulted, by being supposed

to exercise an employment but one degree below their real occupation in life; assured him that he had been misinformed—that she did not keep tavern; but that it was true to oblige some members of the Legislature, she took a number of them into her family, during the session; that she then had four members of the Council, and six of the House of Representatives, who then boarded with her—that all the beds were full; and then betook herself to her knitting with that intense application which expressed, as forcibly as action could do, if you have concluded your business, the sooner you leave the house the better. But upon the Dr's. wrapping his coat around him, affecting to shiver with cold, and observing it was very chilly weather, she pointed to a chair, and gave him leave to warm himself.

The entrance of her boarders precluded all further conversation—coffee was soon served, and the Doctor partook with the family. To the coffee, according to the good old custom of the times, succeeded a plate of pippins, pipes, and a paper of M'Entire's best, when the whole family formed a cheerful smoking semicircle, before the fire. Perhaps no man ever possessed the colloquial powers to a more fascinating degree, than Dr. Franklin; and never was there an occasion, when he displayed those powers to greater advantage than at this time. He drew the attention of the company, by the solidity of his modest remarks— instructed by the varied, new and striking lights, in which he placed his subject, and delighted them with apt and amusing anecdotes. Thus employed the hours passed merrily along, until eight o'clock, when, punctual to a moment, Mrs. Franklin announced supper. Bused with her household affairs, she fancied the stranger had quitted the house, immediately after coffee, and it was with difficulty she could restrain her resentment, when she saw him without molestation, seat himself at table with the freedom of a member of the family.

Immediately after supper, she called an elderly gentleman, a member of the Council, in whom she was accustomed to confide, to another room—complained bitterly of the rudeness of the stranger—told the manner of his introduction into her house—observed that he appeared like an outlandish man; and she thought, had something suspicious in his appearance, concluding, by soliciting her friend's advice with respect to the way in which she could most easily rid herself of his presence. The old gentleman assured her that the stranger was certainly a young man of education, and to all appearance a gentleman; that perhaps being in agreeable company, he had paid no attention to the lateness of the hour: and advised her to call him aside and repeat to him, her inability to lodge him. She accordingly sent her maid to him, and then, with as much temper as she could command, recapitulated the situation of her family; observed that it grew late, and mildly intimated, that he would do well to seek himself a lodging. The Doctor replied, that he would, by no means, incommodate her family; but that, with her leave, he would smoke one pipe more with her boarders, & then retire.

He returned to the company, filled his pipe, and with the first whiff, his powers of converse returned with double force. He recounted the hardships—he extolled the piety and policy of their ancestors. A gentleman present mentioned the subject of the day's debate in the House of Representatives. A bill had been introduced to extend the prerogatives of the Royal Governor. The Doctor immediately entered upon the subject—supported the colonial rights with new and forcible arguments—was familiar with the names of the influential men in the House, when Dudley was Governor—recited their speeches, and applauded the noble defence of the Chamber of rights.

During a discourse so appropriately interesting to the company, no wonder the clock struck eleven, unperceived by the delighted circle: nor was it wonderful that the patience of Mrs. Franklin grew quite exhausted. She now entered the room, & before the whole company, with much warmth, addressed the Doctor; told him, plainly, she thought herself imposed on; observed that it was true, she was a lone woman, but that she had friends who would protect, and concluded, by insisting on his leaving the house. The Doctor made a slight apology, deliberately put on his great coat and hat, took a polite leave of the company, and approached the street door, lighted by the maid and attended by the mistress. While the Doctor and his companions had been enjoying themselves within, a most tremendous snow storm, had, without, filled the streets knee-deep—and no sooner had the maid lifted up the latch, than a roaring north-easter forced open the

door, extinguished the light, and almost filled the entry with drifted snow and hail. As soon as the candle was relighted, the Doctor cast a woful look towards the door, and thus addressed his mother—My dear Madam, can you turn me out of your house in this dreadful storm, I am a stranger in this town, and shall certainly perish in the streets. You look like a charitable lady; I shouldn't think you could turn a dog from your door on this tempestuous night. Don't tell me of charity said the offended matron. Charity begins at home. It is your own fault you tarried so long. To be plain with you, sir, I do not like your looks, or your conduct—and I fear you have some bad designs, in thus introducing yourself to my family.

The warmth of this parley had drawn the company from the parlor, and by their united intercession the stranger was permitted to lodge in the house; and as no bed could be had, he consented to repose on an easy chair before the parlour fire. Although her boarders appeared to coincide perfectly in the stranger's honesty, it was not so with Mrs. Franklin; with suspicous caution, she collected her silver spoons, pepper box, & porringer, from her closet, and after securing the parlour door, by sticking a fork over the latch—carried the plate to her chamber—charged the negro man to sleep with his clothes on—to take the great cleaver to bed with him, and to awaken and seize the vagrant at the first noise he made in attempting to plunder the house. Having thus taken every precaution, she retired to bed with her maid, whom she compelled to sleep in her room.

Mrs. Franklin rose before the sun, rounded her domestics, unfastened the parlour door with timid caution, and was agreeably surprised, to find her guest quietly sleeping in the chair.—A sudden transition from extreme mistrust to perfect confidence, was natural. She awakened him with a cheerful good morning—enquired how he had rested—and invited him to partake of her breakfast, which was always served previous to that of the boarders. And pray, sir, said the old lady, as she sipped her tea, to what distant country do you belong? madam, I belong to the city of Philadelphia. At the mention of Philadelphia, the Doctor declared, he for the first time, perceived any emotion in her. Philadelphia? said she, and all the mother suffused her eye. If you live in Philadelphia, perhaps you know our Ben. Who, madam?—My Ben Franklin; my Ben; oh! he is the dearest child that ever blest a mother. What, said the Doctor, is Ben Franklin the printer, your son? why he is my most intimate friend; he and I lodge in the same room. Oh! God forgive! exclaimed the old lady, raising her watery eyes to heaven—and have I suffered an acquaintance of my Benny to sleep on this hard chair, while I, myself, rested on a good bed?

How the Doctor discovered himself to his mother he has not informed us: but, from the above experiment, he was firmly convinced and was often afterwards heard to declare, that natural affection does not exist.

### Religious.

#### THE SCRIPTURES

SUPERIOR TO ALL OTHER BOOKS.

In what other writings can we discern those excellencies which we find in the Bible? None of them can equal it in antiquity: for the first penman of the sacred Scripture hath the start of all philosophers, poets and historians, and is absolutely the ancientest writer extant in the world. No writings are equal to those of the Bible, & we mention only the stock of human learning contained in them. Here hugenists and philologists may find that which is to be found no where else. Here rhetoricians and orators may be entertained with a more lofty eloquence, with a choicer composition of words, and with a greater variety of style, than any other writers can afford them. Here is a book, where more is understood than expressed, where words are few, but the sense is full and redundant. No books equal this in authority, because it is the word of God himself, and dictated by an unerring Spirit. It excels all other writings in the excellency of its matter, which is the highest, noblest, and worthiest, and of the greatest concern to mankind. Lastly, the Scriptures transcend all other writings in their power and efficacy.

Wherefore, with great seriousness and opportunity, I request the reader that he would entertain such thoughts and persuasions as these, that Bible-learning is the highest accomplishment, that this book is the most valuable of any upon earth, that here is a library in one single volume, that this alone is sufficient for us, though all the libraries in the world were destroyed.

EDWARD